

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Today, Congressman John Olver announced that the Farm and Forest Trail at Hancock Shaker Village is set to be opened to the public. Federal funding enabling the completion of the project was secured by Congressman John Olver in 2008. The one-mile long universally accessible loop trail is illustrated with explanatory signage that describes the history of the Shakers and the area. The trail winds its way through hardwood forests that supplied lumber for the Shakers' world-renowned furniture. To date, Hancock Shaker Village has primarily interpreted and conducted programs on only 50 of its 1,200 acres. "I am very pleased to see this wonderful project come to fruition," Congressman John Olver said. "For many years, Hancock Shaker Village has been a source of inspiration for the development of this trail came from the desire to create a truly integrated outdoor experience." Saturday, September 29th is also the kick off of the two-day 10th annual Country Fair at Hancock Shaker Village. In addition to federal participation, funding for the trail comes from Berkshire Bank, TD Banknorth, Coolidge Foundation, and the Hancock Shaker Village. Hancock Shaker Village members and children 12 and under are admitted free of charge. Admission for all other visitors is \$10. About Hancock Shaker Village Hancock Shaker Village, in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, is situated on 1,200 acres.

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